

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 1833. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to ban partial-birth abortions.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1568. A communication from the Chief of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Navy, transmitting, pursuant to law, notice relative to renewing a lease; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1569. A communication from the President and Chairman of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a statement regarding transactions involving exports to the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1570. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report appropriations legislation within five days of enactment; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-1571. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on transportation user fees; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1572. A communication from the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the Effects of Implementation of the Expanded East coast Plan (EECP) Over the State of New Jersey; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1573. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the 1995 status of the Nation's Surface Transportation System; to the Committee on the Environment and Public Works.

EC-1574. A communication from the Comptroller General, transmitting, pursuant to law, reports and testimony for the month of September 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1575. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the efforts to promote the use of frequent traveler programs by federal employees; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1576. A communication from the members of the United States of America Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to referrals, matters transmitted, hearings conducted, and actions to collect civil penalties for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PRESSLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 288. A bill to abolish the Board of Review of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104-166).

By Mr. PRESSLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 1139. A bill to amend the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104-167).

By Mr. ROTH, from the Committee on Finance, with an amendment:

S. 1318. An original bill to reform the statutes relating to Amtrak, to authorize appropriations for Amtrak, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 1378. A bill to combat public corruption, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SIMPSON:

S. 1379. A bill to make technical amendments to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. D'AMATO:

S. 1380. A bill to require forfeiture of counterfeited access devices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 1381. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals who are involuntarily unemployed to withdraw funds from individual retirement accounts and other qualified retirement plans without incurring a tax penalty; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DOLE (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE):

S. 1382. A bill to extend the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act; considered and passed.

By Mr. STEVENS:

S. 1383. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation and coastwise trade endorsement for the vessel *Westford*; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

S. 1384. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation and coastwise trade endorsement for the vessel *God's Grace II*; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BREAUX (for himself, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. KERREY, Mr. DASCHLE, and Mr. HOLLINGS):

S. 1385. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of periodic colorectal screening services under part B of the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURNS (for himself and Mr. SHELBY):

S. 1386. A bill to provide for soft-metric conversion, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. NUNN:

S. 1387. A bill to provide for innovative approaches for homeownership opportunity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BREAUX (for himself and Mr. JOHNSTON):

S.J. Res. 42. Joint resolution designating the Civil War Center at Louisiana State University as the United States Civil War Center, making the center the flagship institution for planning the sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 1378. A bill to combat public corruption, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

THE ANTI-CORRUPTION ACT OF 1995

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the Anti-Corruption Act of 1995, a bill which will strengthen the ability of Federal law enforcement officials to combat election fraud and public corruption by State and local officials. A few excerpts from recent news articles will demonstrate the need for this bill:

The San Diego Union-Tribune writes on October 1 of recent reports,

[T]hat cats and dogs are on the state's voter rolls, that God is registered to vote in Hollywood, and that a San Francisco man who died in 1982 has consistently voted for the past decade.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reports on the same day of the city comptroller who, a few days earlier, pleaded guilty to—

[I]ncome tax evasion in exchange for dismissal of charges that he conspired with others to defraud voters in the comptroller's election two years ago.

The Dallas Morning News reports on September 30, of citizens in rural Costilla County, CO, who,

[S]purred an investigation by the state attorney general that led to a raft of indictments and guilty pleas for election fraud [and] prompted a second investigation by the attorney general that found fraud and embezzlement by county officials.

The Hartford Courant reports on August 28, of new efforts to combat voter fraud because of irregularities, including,

[T]wenty-seven felons who voted in 1994 in the race for the 2nd District Congressional seat.

It is no wonder the American people become more disgusted with our system every day. Allegations of vote buying and cries of "voting irregularities" pervade every close election.

We would like to think that the losing candidates are only motivated by sour grapes. But too often, investigations turn up cases where a dead, nonetheless patriotic, American manages to roll out of his eternal slumber to do his or her civic duty before the polls close.

Americans' faith is further eroded by daily scandals involving public officials reported in their local paper. This past summer, officials formally closed a nearly 5-year corruption investigation that rocked my own State of Kentucky. Operation BOPTR0T resulted in more than a dozen convictions of State legislators, appointed State officials and lobbyists. The BOPTR0T sting operation involved bribery and influence peddling at the highest level of Kentucky State government. Although the BOPTR0T investigation was closed in early August, FBI officials made it clear that the State has not yet been cleansed of public corruption: "Public corruption remains the FBI's No. 1 priority in Kentucky," according to the lead FBI investigator.